

So we are going to take action next week on domestic terrorism legislation, and I hope both sides send an unmistakable message against the ascension of White supremacy that threatens the fabric of this Nation.

BABY FORMULA

Mr. President, one final note on baby formula, yesterday, President Biden invoked the Defense Production Act to respond to the shortage of baby formula that is hurting parents and caretakers of newborns across the country. The President is taking the issue seriously. Invoking the DPA was exactly the right response.

I cannot imagine how hard the shortage is for families who have been impacted. There is already such a burden on a mother of a newborn child; we can't let this formula shortage be another stressor for mothers in this country.

The Senate should likewise take action to help our Nation's parents. Yesterday, the House passed a pair of bills to address the baby formula shortage—including one with over 400 votes—that will make sure that parents who rely on the Federal nutrition programs can continue to access baby formula in the face of supply chain shortages. I hope the Senate will pass both of these bills.

Here in the Senate, Senator STABENOW and Senator BOOZMAN are championing nearly identical legislation to the bipartisan WIC bill that overwhelmingly passed the House. I hope the Senate can consider this bill immediately and send it to the President so we can send swift and tangible assistance to working parents feeling the brunt of this shortage.

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL CREATION OF A NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE ACT

Mr. President, on one additional very happy note, today, my colleague Senator HIRONO, in a few minutes, will ask consent to pass important legislation to create a congressional Commission on the creation of the first national Asian-American history and culture museum right here in the Nation's Capitol.

I am elated and thrilled to support bringing to the floor and voting for this long-overdue step that will help establish one of the greatest museums dedicated solely to telling the story of Asian Americans throughout history. It is a story that is long overdue.

Asian Americans, from the country's founding, have played a giant role in shaping our country. Much of that history is unknown. And we see the growing and vibrant Asian community, from so many parts of the world—from the Middle East, from South Asia, from East Asia, from Southeast Asia, and everywhere else—all coming to America and working hard and growing families and establishing businesses and making America great.

With all the bigotry that we have seen and the increase in violence now on Asian Americans, we have to rebut that nasty view that some people have.

And forming a museum that will show the greatness of this community—past, present, and future—will be so important because, from the beginning of our founding, Asian Americans have played a great role in shaping the country.

Too much of the history is unknown. Students never even come across these stories and lessons in school. That is disappointing. But it is also why this Asian-American history and culture museum is so important. An Asian-American history and culture museum would celebrate the achievements with all Americans and all the world and exalt our wonderful, growing, strong, beautiful Asian-American community.

I thank Senator HIRONO for her work and yield the floor to her.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak up to 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL CREATION OF A NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE ACT

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I thank the majority leader for his words and his very strong support of the Asian-Pacific American community and his support for this bill that I am calling forth today.

As we celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, we have an opportunity to pass meaningful legislation to establish a Commission to study the creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture.

This bill is straightforward. It establishes an eight-person Commission, appointed equally by House and Senate majority and minority leadership. The Commission will be composed of individuals with expertise in the research, study, and promotion of Asian-Pacific American history.

This Commission will submit a report to Congress, at which point we should act. Asian and Pacific Islander American communities have made significant contributions to American life, but despite these undeniable contributions, our communities have largely been excluded or erased from American history. If not invisible, API groups are often pejoratively depicted as foreigners, always "the other," instead of people who have lived in and positively contributed to this country for generations.

These narratives have fueled xenophobia and racism, contributing to decades of racism, racist laws, and discrimination—and, of course, most recently led to the rise in attacks in hate-related incidents against members of our communities.

A National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture would help combat these harmful narratives

by sharing API history on an unprecedented scale, and we should consider whether or not such a museum should be feasible.

With this bill, we can demonstrate our commitment to showcasing the significant contributions of the API community to our country's fabric. I think it is really important for our country to better understand how the Chinese Exclusion Act, Executive Order No. 9066, which led to the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II and decades of racial laws, contribute to the API experience today.

The establishment of this kind of museum should not be controversial, and it has been done before with regard to the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the National Museum of the American the Latino. These museums represent progress. They help us better understand one another and our shared history as Americans.

Now we have a chance to build on this progress by creating a Commission to study a similar museum to highlight the history and legacy of the API individuals and communities in this country, and, of course, this bill represents a significant step toward an America that celebrates and encourages the rich diversity of our people.

With that, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3525 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3525) to establish the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3525) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

BLACKWELL SCHOOL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE ACT

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 300, S. 2490.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2490) to establish the Blackwell School National Historic Site in Marfa, Texas, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which